



MYRTLE RESERVOIR PARK & BEVERIDGE PLACE SITE DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS Public Process Overview

History of the Projects

Genesis of the Myrtle Reservoir project:

- The Morgan Junction Neighborhood Plan contained several recommendations;
 - Develop a Green Crescent that would run from the Reservoir park at 35th Ave SW and SW Myrtle St., through the SW Orchard Street Ravine, to the Lincoln Park Annex, through the Pelly Place/Lowman Beach Park area, and, potentially, up through the SW Eddy St. Ravine or other greenlink into the center of the Morgan Junction business district. Development of each element of the Green Crescent should be preceded by a feasibility study which would assess environmental impacts to sensitive ecosystems, slope stability, adjacent and surrounding property owner concerns, maintenance, safety, funding and legal implications, as applicable.
 - When the open reservoir at 35th Ave SW and SW Myrtle St. is covered, move the security fencing closer to the reservoir and create usable open space for family-oriented activities.
 - Acquire the SCL substation on Morgan Street for possible future park/plaza space and/or reconfiguration of street intersections in order to support the Green Crescent while at the same time improving traffic flow and pedestrian safety.
- Seattle Public Utilities is replacing its open reservoirs with underground structures that will improve quality and security of our water supply and provide 76 acres of new open space.....
- The CIP states,
Myrtle Reservoir - "This project, part of the 2000 Parks Levy, develops usable open space for family-oriented activities once the reservoir is lidded. The scope of work for this project will be developed through a community process, working within the budget identified below and other non-levy fund sources that become available. The project will be implemented in coordination with Seattle Public Utilities' Reservoir Covering."
- During the development of the Citywide Skatepark Plan, community members nominated the Myrtle Reservoir and High Point Playfield sites as a possible location for a district skatepark.
- Project Web Site <http://www.seattle.gov/parks/proparks/projects/myrtle.htm>

Genesis of the Morgan Substation Alternative Site

- The Morgan Junction Neighborhood Plan
Acquire the SCL substation on Morgan Street for possible future park/plaza space and/or reconfiguration of street intersections in order to support the Green Crescent while at the same time improving traffic flow and pedestrian safety.
- After City Light, decided that the Morgan Substation was required for providing electrical utility service for the foreseeable future, Parks considered alternative sites. Morgan community members indicated to Parks that the Monorail property at Beveridge Place was their top priority site for a new park. Ultimate a partnership between the Beveridge Pub owners and Parks enabled the acquisition of the site located just south of SW Eddy St for a park.
- The Pro Parks Levy provides \$367,000 project costs of planning, design and construction.
- The CIP states
Beveridge Place (Formerly Morgan Substation Site) – “This project, part of the 2000 Parks Levy, develops a newly acquired property located at the northwest corner of California Ave SW and SW Beveridge Pl. into a new park or plaza. Originally the Levy named Morgan Substation as the likely purchase however, the owner of this site, City Light, decided that the location was required for providing electrical utility service for the foreseeable future. Parks then pursued the purchase of this new property, which was a former Monorail acquisition.”
- Project Web Site <http://www.cityofseattle.net/parks/proparks/projects/morgan.htm>

Elements open/not open to public comment, and why:

- Projects are governed by the City’s Land Use Code. As a City agency, Parks is required to follow the Code.
- Parks has many policies, design standards and technical specifications for construction that are in place to ensure safety and durability.
- SPU and Parks have an MOA concerning *Reservoir Burying Projects and Above Ground Recreational Improvements*. The MOA addresses concerns such as preventative measures designed to protect the City’s drinking water from contamination and criteria for the maximum loads on the reservoir lids. Consequently, the SPU review structures on top of the reservoir. Additionally, playfields that would require fertilization to maintain turf and dogs off-leash areas would not be allowed on top of the reservoir.
- Public process conducted on the project to date:
 - Parks staff attended at Morgan Junction Association to introduce himself.
 - This is the first public meeting for both projects.
 - The Monorail authority held several meetings concerning the design of the monorail station site.
- Who Parks notified about the meeting and the sources of the list:
 - Parks sent meeting notification to carrier routes within ¼ mile from the project site.
 - Park posted a notice at the site.

- Parks sent a press release to Seattle Time and Post Intelligencer, West Seattle Herald and other city newspapers.
- Meetings are posted on the Project Web site.
- Milestone and decisions made to date, if any:
 - This is the first meeting.

Explanation of how decisions are made.

- How Parks uses input from the public
 - Public input will be used to define the general design of the parks.
- What impact that input has on a project
 - Public input will be used to define the general design of the parks.
- How “majority” opinions will figure in decisions:
 - If a majority of meeting attendees indicates a preference, this may be used to define or confirm the design direction, subject to the following reviews.
 - In instances where a “majority” opinion conflicts with previous “majority” opinions, the conflict will be considered by Parks internal review committees that may include ProView, ProView Tech or Project Steering.
 - In all cases, opinions are advisory to the Parks decision making process that includes internal technical review (ProView and ProView Tech) where Park policies, procedures and standards are considered.
 - Project designs will be reviewed by SPU to ensure adherence to the applicable design criteria.
 - Additionally, this project may be reviewed by the Seattle Design Commission that may provide project direction.
 - The Board of Park Commissioners will hold a public hearing and make a recommendation to the Parks Superintendent. The Parks Superintendent has the final decision on this project.

Factors that may have an impact on the outcome, including:

- Safety Issues – Safety issues are considered by the consultant, project manager and Parks technical review committees during design.
- Mayoral priorities – None known
- City Council Actions –No Council action is expected.
- Voter approval – Not Applicable
- An existing adopted plan – The Citywide Skatepark Plan was recommended for approval by the Board of Park Commissioners and is being reviewed by City Council. The plan considered and evaluated Highpoint Playfield and Myrtle Reservoir regarding suitability for a potential skate facility. Both sites were evaluated as having the capacity to accommodate a district OR SMALLER sized facility. The Park Board's recommendation that **"there would only be one facility sited between the two locations,"** conveying that two large district sized facilities would not be needed two blocks apart from each other. The Myrtle reservoir planning will consider if a district skatepark is desired and/or physically feasible. The planning process may also consider including a skatedots, which is generally not considered a

“facility” and therefore would not conflict with locating a skatepark facility at Highpoint. <http://www.seattle.gov/parks/projects/Skatepark.htm>

- The process that led to the adoption of that plan – see above
- Budget limitations – All costs for design, construction and project management must be paid from project funds. ProParks Levy provides \$1,068,000 for Myrtle Reservoir and \$367,000 for the Beveridge Place site. Decisions on the scope of the project and materials may be limited by the budget.
- Regional need – Not Applicable

Budget source, and amount, impact on project scope

- Budget limitations – All costs for design, construction and project management must be paid from project funds. ProParks Levy provides \$1,068,000 for Myrtle Reservoir and \$367,000 for the Beveridge Place site. Decisions on the scope of the project and materials may be limited by the budget.

Timelines: upcoming steps in the process, points at which Parks will invite comment

- Parks will hire a landscape architects to design the improvements within the available budget.
- Parks will hold two more public meetings to get public input on the design of these projects.
- The Board of Park Commissioners will likely hearing to take public testimony on the design. They will then make a recommendation to the Superintendent on how to proceed.
- Construction is expected to begin in the Spring of 2008.

After the public involvement process is over, Parks will make a decision and proceed to implement it.